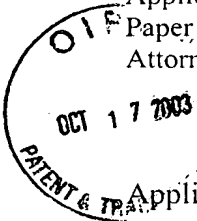


Application No. 09/713,733
Paper Dated October 15, 2003
Attorney Docket No. 2942-991842

2131
#5
SP
10-24-03



IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Application No. : 09/713,733
Applicants : Mark KANTROWITZ
Filed : November 15, 2000
Title : **METHOD AND APPARATUS FOR EFFICIENT
IDENTIFICATION OF DUPLICATE AND
NEAR-DUPLICATE DOCUMENTS AND TEXT SPANS
USING HIGH-DISCRIMINABILITY FRAGMENTS**
Group Art Unit : 2131
Examiner : *Not Yet Assigned*

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Technology Center 2100

THIRD SUPPLEMENTAL INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

The present application is the priority application for PCT Application No. PCT/US01/48124, filed on October 31, 2001. Pursuant to the requirements of 37 C.F.R. §§ 1.56, 1.97 and 1.98, Applicant hereby submits this Third Supplemental Information Disclosure Statement, including a copy of an International Preliminary Examination Report, which issued in the corresponding PCT Application.

Applicant respectfully draws the Examiner's attention to boxes V1 and V2. In particular, the Examiner handling the corresponding PCT Application has indicated that all

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service as first class mail in an envelope addressed to the Commissioner for Patents, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450 on October 15, 2003

Linda C. Seger
(Name of Representative)

Linda C. Seger
Signature

10/15/2003
Date

of pending claims 1-39 are novel, include an inventive step and have industrial applicability.

In particular, the International Examiner explains that:


“Claims 1-39 meet the criteria set out in PCT Article 33(2)-(3), because the prior art does not teach or fairly suggest selecting distinctive features contained in the collection of documents, identifying the distinctive features contained in the document, and for each pair of documents having at least one distinctive feature in common, comparing the distinctive features of the documents to determine whether the documents are duplicate or near-duplicate documents.”

Applicant further requests the Examiner's consideration in connection with the present case of this favorable International Preliminary Examination Report, which includes an identical and unmodified set of claims with respect to the PCT Application. Favorable action on the currently-pending United States application is respectfully requested.

Since this Information Disclosure Statement is being submitted before the mailing date of a first Office Action on the merits, it is timely filed under 37 C.F.R. § 1.97(b)(3) and no fee is required. The Commissioner for Patents is hereby authorized to charge any additional fees, which may be required, to Deposit Account No. 23-0650. One (1) original and two (2) copies of this Third Supplemental Information Disclosure Statement are enclosed.

Respectfully submitted,

WEBB ZIESENHEIM LOGSDON
ORKIN & HANSON, P.C.

By 
Nathan J. Prepelka
Registration No. 43,016
Attorney for Applicant
700 Koppers Building
436 Seventh Avenue
Pittsburgh, PA 15219-1818
Telephone: (412) 471-8815
Facsimile: (412) 471-4094
Email: webblaw@webblaw.com